



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
ULSTER COUNTY COMPTROLLER  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE CLASS OF 2016 STEPPING UP AND STANDING OUT**  
**10 ULSTER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS CHALLENGE THE STATUS QUO**

Kingston, NY (June 22, 2016) – Nine Ulster County High School Seniors – and the first ever High School Junior – have made their mark on their respective schools and communities, being introduced as Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach's recipients of the Recognizing Success award at the regular June session of the Ulster County Legislature. Joining the Comptroller in the recognition ceremony was Legislative Chairman Ken Ronk, along with the twenty-three County Legislators.

The county-wide program acknowledges area seniors who have been selected by their respective schools and have demonstrated a propensity for innovation, risk and achievement. Each student has launched a creative new approach, venture or enterprise for the public good and has advanced social, environmental or academic change through transformational ingenuity.

Humanitarian trips to India, training service dogs, raising funds for Guatemalan children to go to school, and creating devices to allow the disabled to use the internet are just a few of the achievements demonstrated by this group of students.

The students who were recognized and their respective schools are listed below:

**SCHOOL NAME**

Ellenville, Gan Lin  
Highland, Kirti Shenoy  
Kingston, Adrianna Elashker  
Marlboro, Gina Martuscello  
New Paltz, Patrick Varuzza  
Onteora, Sarah Rudge  
Rondout Valley, Sean Kunz  
Saugerties, Kellyann Averill  
Wallkill, Gus Formato  
Woodstock Day School, Jonah Martindale

"The nominations we received spoke beautifully about these young people," said Comptroller Elliott Auerbach. "It gives us needed hope for the future to know that these students understand the challenges of leadership and are unafraid to practice it."

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*The mission of the Ulster County Comptroller's Office is to serve as an independent agency of the people and to protect the public interest by monitoring County government and to assess and report on the degree to which its operation is economical, efficient and its financial condition sound.*